(iv) To instil moral and physical strength and discipline by making social service works and military training compulsory part of education;

(v) Dovetailing the education curriculum to the National culture, needs and aspirations;

(vi) Establishing women universities and women hostels in each district;

(vii) Improvement in the conditions of hostels for SC and ST students; and

(viii) Expansion of professional education.

3. The Task Force will examine the above mentioned issues and submit its recommendations to the Government within six months from the date of issue of the order constituting the Task Force.

Private participation in building gymnasiums/swimming pools in KVS

3808. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) across the country have invited private participation to build and operate gymnasiums and swimming pools for their schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it has the approval of the Ministry;

(d) if so, the reasons for according permission for construction of facilities within the school premises on a build, operate and transfer basis; and

(e) *modus operandi* to be followed for safety and security of the school and its students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has drawn up a scheme to get swimming pools and gymnasia constructed in Kendriya Vidyalayas by private parties on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis. Under the scheme, private parties are provided a specified area of land in the Vidyalaya premises for a specified period. At the end of the concession period, the assets get automatically transferred to the KVS. The party concerned constructs, maintains and operates the swimming pool and gymnasium with its own funds. During school hours, KV students are allowed to use the swimming pool and gymnasium free of cost. Beyond school hours, the party is free to use the facilities commercially.

(c) and (d) Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan being an autonomous body, the scheme has been approved by the Board of Governors of the Sangathan. The scheme provides opportunities for these additional facilities to the students of KVS without any financial burden on Government exchequer.

(e) The private operators are required to provide the necessary life guard and coach for the safety of the children.

Setting up of Open Universities and television channel for higher education

3809. SHRIMATI SHABANA AZMI :

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether in an effort to balance the drive for greater enrolment at the college and university level with limited financial resources Government are planning ways to promote distance education and Open Universities;

(b) if so, whether it has been proposed that during the Tenth Plan period, every State should set up atleast one Open University;

(c) whether there are also plans for a dedicated television channel for general higher education;